



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Gender Recognition Certificate Statistics January to March 2012

Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

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Introduction

This bulletin presents summary statistics on Gender Recognition Certificates applied for and granted by Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service's Gender Recognition Panel during the quarter **January to March of 2012**, along with quarterly data back to July 2009.

Under United Kingdom law, individuals are considered by the State to be of the gender – either male or female – that is recorded on their birth certificate. The Gender Recognition Act 2004, which came into effect on 4 April 2005, enables transsexual people to apply to the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP) to receive a Gender Recognition Certificate (GRC).

Successful applicants are considered legally to be of their acquired gender. Such individuals are entitled to all the rights appropriate to a person of their acquired gender, including the right to marry someone of the opposite legal gender, form a civil partnership with someone of the same legal gender, and to retire and receive state pension at an age appropriate to their acquired gender. A person whose birth was registered in the UK is able to obtain a new birth certificate showing their recognised legal gender.

There are two application processes for obtaining a GRC:

1. **Standard track** applications are those submitted under the standard application process, on the basis of living permanently in the acquired gender.
2. **Overseas track** applications are those submitted under the overseas application process, on the basis of having changed gender under the law of an approved country or territory outside the United Kingdom.

The GRP was established under the Gender Recognition Act 2004. Its function is to assess applications from transsexual people seeking to obtain a Gender Recognition Certificate. Information on the criteria for gender recognition against which the GRP assesses applications can be found in the Explanatory Notes section at the end of this report.

The GRP is comprised of judicially trained legal and medical members. The panel sit in private and consider the documentary evidence supplied by the applicant in support of their application. If a person is successful in their application to the GRP, they will be issued with a full Gender Recognition Certificate, and that person's gender will become, for all purposes, their acquired gender.

More information about the gender recognition process and the work of the GRP can be found on the Ministry of Justice website at

www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/gender-recognition-panel.

Quarterly figures on the workload of all the tribunals run by Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service are published in the Official Statistics bulletin

entitled Quarterly Tribunals Statistics, which is available from the Ministry of Justice website at

www.justice.gov.uk/statistics/tribunals/quarterly.

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this statistical bulletin, please direct them to the appropriate contact given at the end of this report.

Executive summary

In the quarter January to March of 2012, a total of 76 applications for gender recognition were received by the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP). In total, 320 applications were received during the 12 months from April 2011 to March 2012.

Sixty-three applications were dealt with by the GRP during the quarter January to March 2012. A full Gender Recognition Certificate was issued in 54 cases, of which 43 were to individuals who were registered male at birth, and 11 to individuals who were registered female at birth. Five cases were granted an interim Gender Recognition Certificate, with 3 applications refused.

The certificates granted included to 15 applicants born in the years 1960-1969, 14 applicants born in 1950-1959 and 11 applicants born in 1980 onwards.

At the end of the March 2012, there were 89 applications pending.

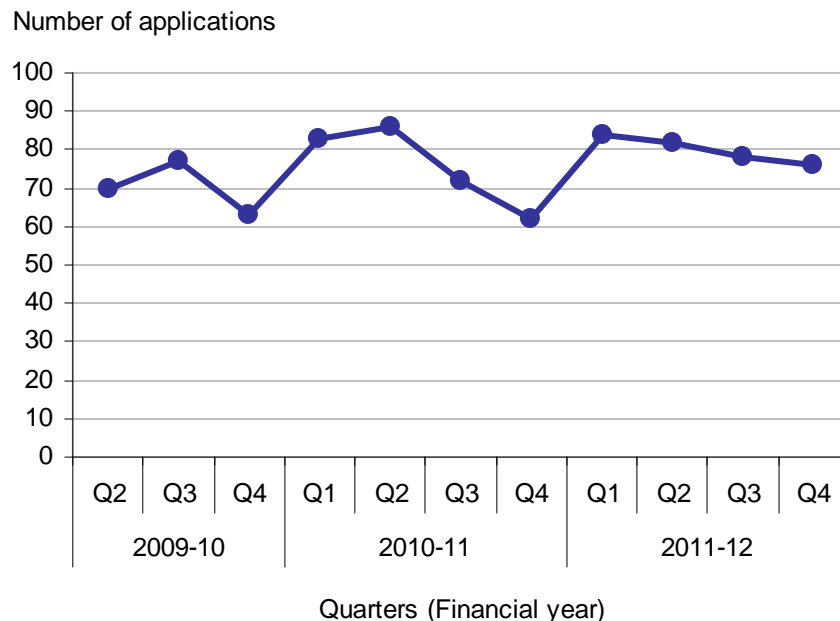
Commentary

Applications received (Table 1)

A total of 76 applications were received by the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP) in the quarter January to March of 2012. Overall the number of applications has followed a broadly flat trend over the past two years (see Figure 1). A total of 320 applications were received during the 12 month period from April 2011 to March 2012.

Of the 76 applications in the quarter, 75 were 'standard track' applications, meaning that they were due to follow the standard gender recognition application process. A further 1 was an 'overseas track' application, meaning that it was from a person who was applying on the basis that they had been recognised in their acquired gender overseas.

Figure 1: Applications received by the Gender Recognition Panel, Q2 2009-10 to Q4 2011-12



At the end of the quarter, a total of 89 applications were in progress awaiting final resolution. This was an increase of 17% from the previous quarter.

Initial outcome of applications (Table 2)

A total of 63 applications were dealt with by the GRP during the period January to March 2012, meaning that either a decision had been taken by the GRP to grant or to refuse a Gender Recognition Certificate, or the applicant withdrew their application.

A full Gender Recognition Certificate was granted in 54 cases (86 per cent of the total), meaning that the person was judged by the GRP to have satisfied the criteria for legal recognition in their acquired gender.

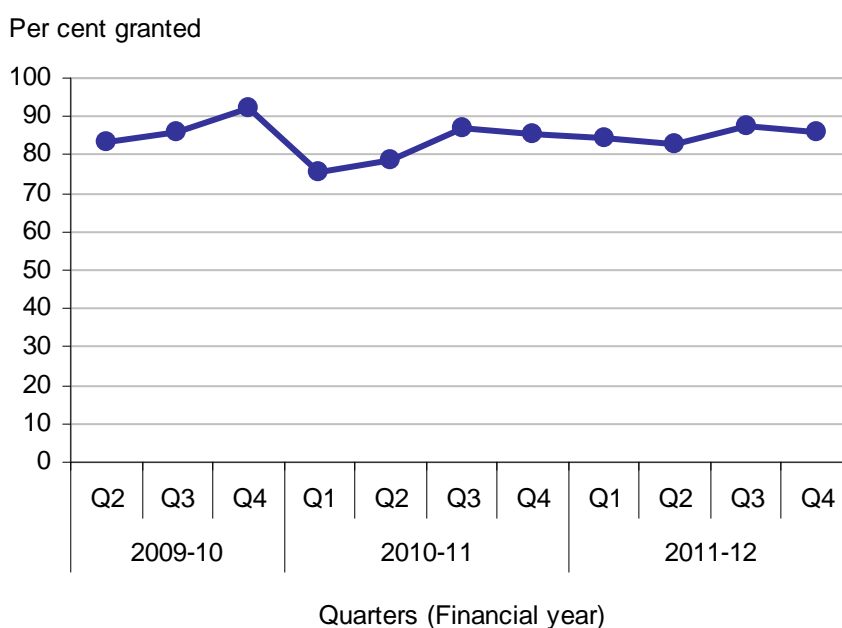
There were 5 cases where an interim Gender Recognition Certificate was granted, which meant that the application was successful but the applicant was married or in a civil partnership at the time. In such instances, a full Gender Recognition Certificate will be issued when the marriage or civil partnership has ended. Full certificates which are issued subsequent to an earlier interim certificate are not included within the statistics for full Gender Recognition Certificates, which relate to those issued by the GRP in the first instance.

A further 3 applications were refused during January to March 2012, while 1 application was withdrawn.

During the 12 months from April 2011 to March 2012, a total of 309 applications were dealt with, with a full Gender Recognition Certificate being granted in 263 cases (85 per cent).

Table 2 now shows separately the outcome of 'standard track' and 'overseas track' applications.

Figure 2: Proportion of applications dealt with where a full Gender Recognition Certificate was granted, Q2 2009-10 to Q4 2011-12



Gender Recognition Certificates granted – demographic statistics (Table 3)

Fifty-four full Gender Recognition Certificates were granted during the period January to March 2012. Of these, 43 certificates were granted to individuals who were registered male at birth (who thus legally became female as a result), while 11 were granted to individuals who were registered female at birth.

As in previous quarters, full Gender Recognition Certificates were granted to applicants of a range of ages. Certificates granted included to 15 applicants

born in 1960-1969, 14 applicants born in 1950-1959 and 11 applicants born in the years from 1980 onwards (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Full Gender Recognition Certificates granted during Q4 2011-12, by gender and year of birth

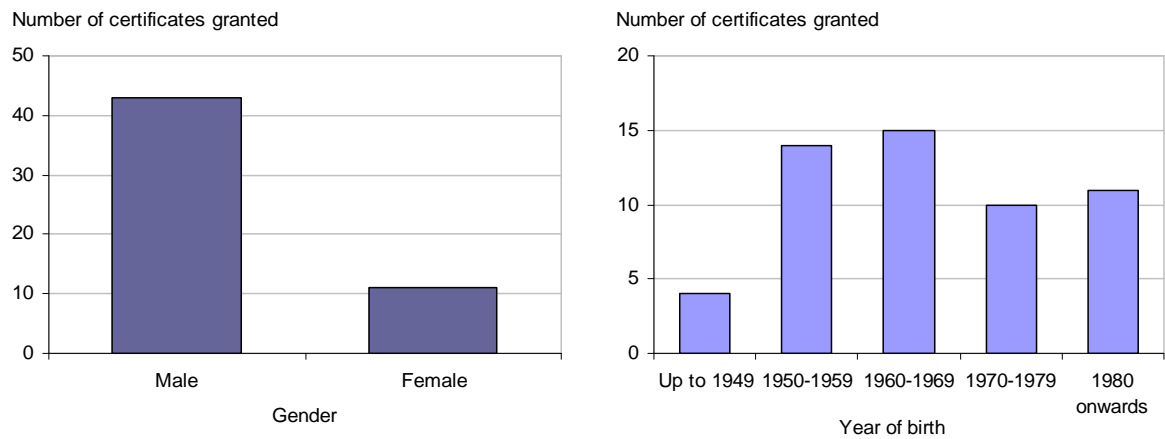


Table 1: Applications received by the Gender Recognition Panel, Q2 2009-10 to Q4 2011-12

Time period	Total applications received	Track type		Total applications pending at end of period
		Standard	Overseas	
Financial year				
2010-11	303	284	19	78
2011-12	320	311	9	89
Quarter				
2009-10 Q2	70	68	2	81
2009-10 Q3	77	72	5	79
2009-10 Q4	63	60	3	91
2010-11 Q1	83	75	8	113
2010-11 Q2	86	82	4	119
2010-11 Q3	72	67	5	106
2010-11 Q4	62	60	2	78
2011-12 Q1	84	82	2	104
2011-12 Q2	82	78	4	87
2011-12 Q3	78	76	2	76
2011-12 Q4	76	75	1	89

Table 2: Applications dealt with by the Gender Recognition Panel, Q2 2009-10 to Q4 2011-12

Time period	Total applications dealt with	Outcome of standard track applications					Outcome of overseas track applications				
		Total	Full GRC granted	Interim GRC granted	Refused	Application withdrawn	Total	Full GRC granted	Interim GRC granted	Refused	Application withdrawn
Financial year											
2010-11	316	296	251	16	23	6	20	9	0	5	6
2011-12	309	296	255	13	19	9	13	8	0	4	1
Quarter											
2009-10 Q2	72	70	59	5	3	3	2	1	0	1	0
2009-10 Q3	79	77	67	5	5	0	2	1	0	1	0
2009-10 Q4	51	48	44	3	1	0	3	3	0	0	0
2010-11 Q1	61	60	46	7	5	2	1	0	0	1	0
2010-11 Q2	80	73	62	0	8	3	7	1	0	0	6
2010-11 Q3	85	81	74	5	2	0	4	0	0	4	0
2010-11 Q4	90	82	69	4	8	1	8	8	0	0	0
2011-12 Q1	58	54	49	3	1	1	4	0	0	4	0
2011-12 Q2	99	95	78	1	11	5	4	4	0	0	0
2011-12 Q3	89	86	76	4	4	2	3	2	0	0	1
2011-12 Q4	63	61	52	5	3	1	2	2	0	0	0

Table 3: Gender at birth and year of birth for full Gender Recognition Certificates granted, Q2 2009-10 to Q4 2011-12

Time period	Total full GRCs granted	Gender at birth		Year of birth				
		Male	Female	Up to 1949	1950-1959	1960-1969	1970-1979	1980 onwards
Financial year								
2010-11	260	186	74	27	63	69	50	51
2011-12	263	205	58	19	73	64	57	50
Quarter								
2009-10 Q2	60	45	15	8	15	8	18	11
2009-10 Q3	68	58	10	10	14	21	16	7
2009-10 Q4	47	35	12	9	13	14	4	7
2010-11 Q1	46	36	10	6	12	19	3	6
2010-11 Q2	63	42	21	7	20	14	10	12
2010-11 Q3	74	55	19	7	11	19	20	17
2010-11 Q4	77	53	24	7	20	17	17	16
2011-12 Q1	49	38	11	2	18	12	12	5
2011-12 Q2	82	69	13	6	24	18	20	14
2011-12 Q3	78	55	23	7	17	19	15	20
2011-12 Q4	54	43	11	4	14	15	10	11

Explanatory notes

The statistics in this bulletin relate to applications to, and decisions made by, the Gender Recognition Panel (GRP) in the quarter October to December of 2011. They are published by the Ministry of Justice, with assistance from officials at the GRP.

Under UK law, individuals are considered by the State to be of the gender – either male or female – that is recorded on their birth certificate. The Gender Recognition Act 2004, which came into effect on 4 April 2005, enables transsexual people to apply to the GRP to receive a Gender Recognition Certificate. Successful applicants who are issued with a certificate are considered legally to be of their acquired gender. Such individuals are entitled to all the rights appropriate to a person of their acquired gender, including the right to marry someone of the opposite legal gender, form a civil partnership with someone of the same legal gender, and to receive state pension at an age appropriate to their acquired gender. A person whose birth was registered in the UK is able to obtain a new birth certificate showing their recognised legal gender.

An application for a Gender Recognition Certificate requires applicants to demonstrate that:

- They have, or have had, gender dysphoria.
- They have lived fully for the last two years in their acquired gender.
- They intend to live permanently in their acquired gender.

The overseas process requires applicants to demonstrate that they have been legally recognised in their acquired gender in a country or territory that is listed in the Gender Recognition (Approved Countries and Territories) Order 2005. The list is available on the Ministry of Justice website (www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/gender-recognition-panel/overseas-application-process). Under all circumstances, an applicant must also prove that they are at least 18 years of age at date of application.

A full Gender Recognition Certificate issued by the GRP shows that a person has satisfied the criteria for legal recognition in the acquired gender. It is issued to a successful applicant if he or she is not married or in a civil partnership. From the date of issue, the holder's gender becomes the acquired gender for all purposes.

An interim Gender Recognition Certificate is issued to a successful applicant if he or she is married or in a civil partnership at the time of the application. The interim certificate is issued to allow the applicant and his or her spouse or civil partner to end their marriage or civil partnership easily. It has no legal significance beyond this use. When the marriage or civil partnership is ended, a full Gender Recognition Certificate will be issued to the successful applicant. Please note, however, that the statistics for full certificates issued presented in this bulletin do not count those issued

subsequent to an earlier interim certificate; the statistics relate to those full certificates which are issued in the *first* instance.

The Gender Recognition Panel is part of Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service, which is an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice, and provides administrative support for the tribunals' judiciary who hear cases and decide appeals. More information about the work of HM Courts and Tribunals Service can be found on the Ministry of Justice website at www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmcts.

Contact points for further information

Press enquiries on the contents of this bulletin should be directed to the HM Courts and Tribunals Service press office:

Tel: 020 3334 6510

Queries regarding the work of the Gender Recognition Panel should be directed to:

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Email: grpenquiries@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

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General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

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